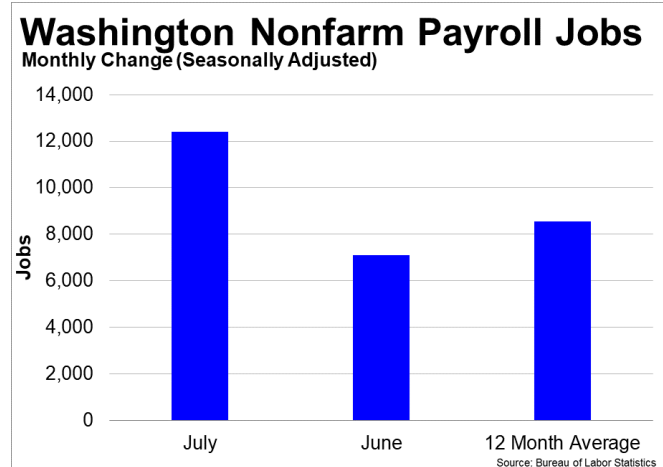
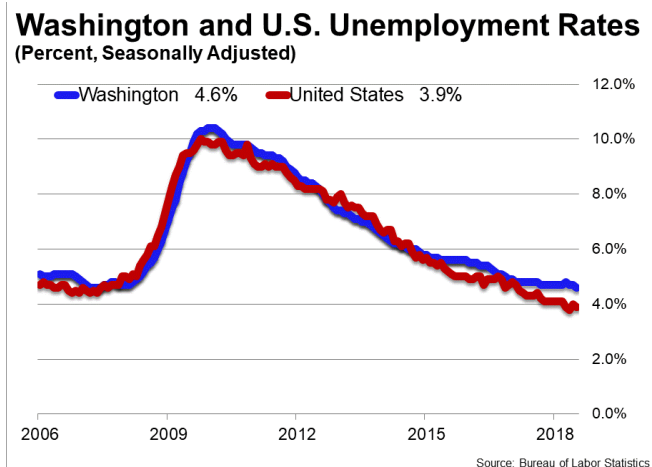




August 17, 2018

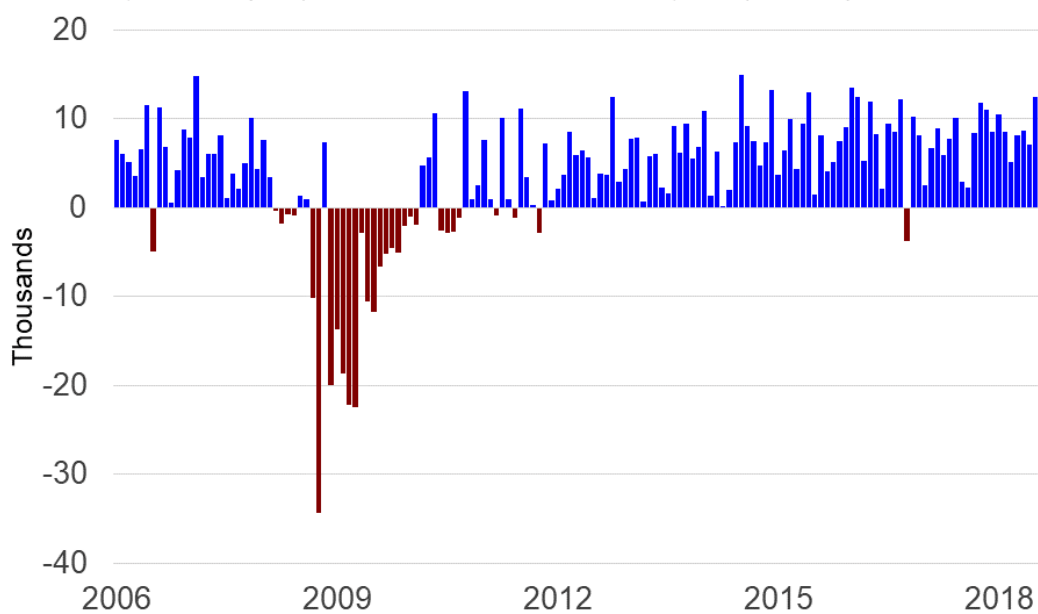
Summary

- **Washington added 12,400 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.6 percent in July** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Washington added 102,500 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point from 4.8 percent.
- **In July, Washington's private sector added 11,900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 98,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Washingtonians fell by 3,086 in July**, and over the past year 34,316 Washingtonians found jobs.
- Washington's **labor force participation rate decreased to 63.3 percent** from 63.4 percent in July. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.7 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.9 percent in July**. State employment and unemployment data for August is scheduled for release on September 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for August will be released on Friday, September 7, 2018.



Washington Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Washington Payroll Employment

Washington added 12,400 jobs, or 0.36 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during July. In the prior month, Washington added 7,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Washington increased by 102,500, or 3.08 percent. Washington nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

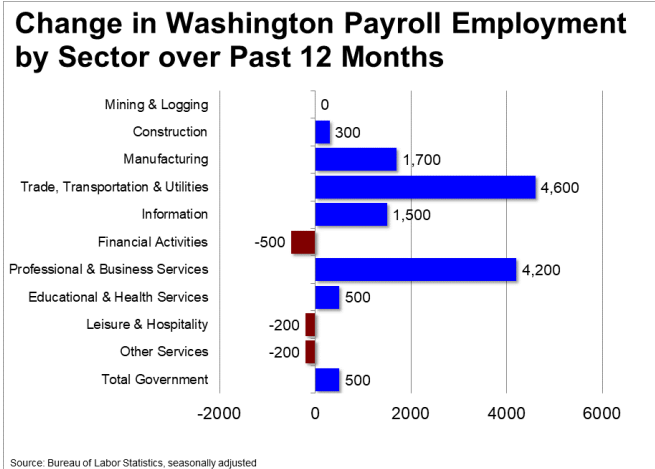
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 157,000 jobs in July, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending July 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,400,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. Washington ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During July, Washington's private-sector added 11,900 jobs, or 0.42 percent. The private-sector in Washington added 7,500 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Washington increased by 98,800, or 3.61 percent. Washington private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 170,000 jobs in July, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,392,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.92 percent. Washington ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during July were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+4,600) and Professional & Business Services (+4,200). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Financial Activities (-500) and Other Services (-200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+26,600) and Professional & Business Services (+23,300). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (+100) and Other Services (+1,800).



Washington Labor Force Statistics

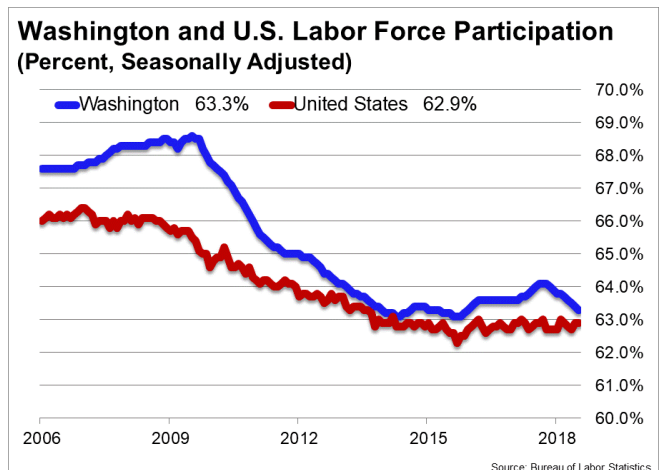
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Washington declined to 63.3 percent in July from 63.4 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 26 have a higher labor force participation rate than Washington. The labor force participation rate in Washington is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Washington was 68.6 percent in July 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Washington occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 70.5 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 63.1 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 60.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Washington civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at



60.4 percent in July. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 27 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Washington. The employment-to-population ratio in Washington is 0.5 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington was 64.6 percent in August 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington occurred in February 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.1 percent in January 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.5 percent in July. That rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

